Joint Venture with SAIL

2570. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether several private sector companies have expressed interest in forming a joint venture with SAIL for Salem Steel Plant in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof :

(c) whether the financial consultants for the proposed joint venture have since selected any of the partner for the Salem Steel Plant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) Following private companies have offered their Expression of Interest (EoI) for participation in joint venture for Salem Steel Plant (SSP) of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) :

— TISCO, Jamshedpur
— Jindal Strips, Delhi
— Shah Alloys, Ahmedabad
— SMS Demag, Germany
— Avesta Sheffield, Sweden

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Financial Package for SAIL

†2571. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA' : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that steel companies of private sector have criticised the financial package announced for SAIL;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the said step is not against the principle of healthy competition in this sector; and

(d) whether any similar package is also under consideration for the private sector companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.